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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR/Austria

DATE DISTR. 28 July 1955

50X1 SUBJECT Alleged New Soviet 107mm
Anti-Tank Rocket Launcher

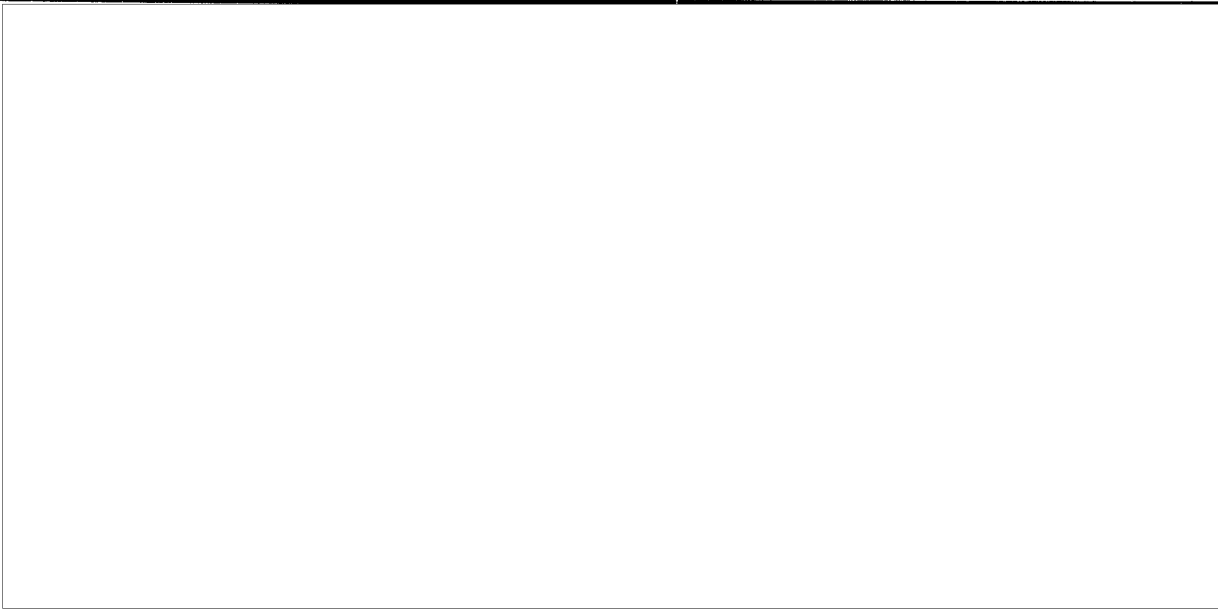
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ALLEGED NEW SOVIET CREW-SERVED 107-mm ANTI-TANK ROCKET LAUNCHER 1,6

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This report describes an alleged new Soviet crew-served anti-tank rocket launcher, referred to [redacted] as a 107-mm Stankovoy Granatamoet (heavy grenade thrower). [redacted] this weapon a number of occasions [redacted] caserne area at MAUER OEHLING (4806N-1418E) and on the firing range at ALLENTSTEIG (4841N-1519E). At the latter place and time, [redacted] three rounds fired from the weapon. 50X1

50X1 [redacted] the weapon as two meters. On another occasion, [redacted] a dummy wooden projectile for this weapon, [redacted] uniton characteristics. [redacted] a live round close-up.

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A. DESCRIPTION OF WEAPON

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1. General Appearance (See Annex A)

[] the alleged 107-mm AT rocket launcher was a crew-served weapon consisting of a fixed two wheel mount, a 3-mm thick metal shield and a tube approximately 1.7 to 1.8 m long and with a circular horizontal-swinging breechblock. 2. Front and rear sights were mounted on the left side of the tube and forward of the firing shield. [] to furnish further details on the sights.

To the rear of the shield and mounted on the left side of the tube was a firing shoulder support to aid the gunner. Firing was accomplished from the prone position.

Positioned under the weapon was a fixed two-wheel carriage with the axle forward of the shield and forming the trunnion of the weapon 3. (See Annex A for a sketch of the carriage.)

Located approximately in the center of the weapon was a 3-mm thick sheet metal firing shield with angular sides. On the left front of the shield was a small glass window which permitted the gunner to lay the rocket launcher with the aid of the front and rear sights which were positioned in front of this shield. The shield was so constructed that it might be folded inward to decrease its width and height when the weapon was in the travelling position.

To facilitate transporting the weapon, a carrying or towing handle was mounted on top of the tube at the muzzle end.

2. Firing Mechanism 50X1

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The weapon was fired with the aid of a mechanical firing mechanism located at the bottom center of the tube. The firing mechanism consisted of a pistol grip, trigger, trigger guard, mechanical linkage (Source assumed that there were springs housed in a cylindrical housing under the tube) and a hammer. The hammer as described [] resembled a 180-degree metal arc which was secured to the bottom rear center of the tube and, in some manner [] was connected to the mechanical linkage and trigger mechanism. The weapon was cocked by pulling the hammer down and was fired by squeezing the trigger.

3. Subcaliber Device and Firing Procedure 50X1

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[] a subcaliber device used in connection with this weapon, both in [] caserne and at the ALLENTSTEIG firing range. This device consisted of a circular bushing with a PPSH SMG gun barrel fixed in its center. [] the diameter or length of the bushing [] as it appeared when in place in the tube.

Firing with the subcaliber device was conducted at a range of approximately 25 m. Rounds were hand loaded, and the spent cartridge cases were extracted with the aid of the breechblock when the latter was opened. The procedure for sub-caliber firing was as follows:

- (1) The loader pulled the hammer down for cocking.
- (2) The loader opened the breechblock and swung it to the right.
- (3) The loader inserted a round into the breech end and closed the breech.
- (4) The gunner then sighted the piece and fired the weapon by squeezing the trigger.

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4. Specific Weapon Information and Characteristics

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Caliber 107-mm ([redacted] from the battery designation) 1.

Bore Smooth ([redacted] the weapon appeared to have no "kick")

Weight 60 kg approx (estimate) 50X1

Overall length 50X1 Approx 1.7 to 1.8 [redacted]

Overall height Approx 40 cm 50X1

Overall width Approx 50-60 cm (observation) 50X1

Armor penetration 50X1 [redacted]

weapons and equipment, during which the alleged rocket launcher was displayed very briefly, an unknown major stated only that the ammunition was capable of penetrating any known tank. [redacted] recall no other 107-mm rocket launcher or rocket launcher ammunition details from the orientation.

Range: 50X1 50X1 50X1

Effective Approx 1,500. [redacted] this range by the amount of telephone wire layed by [redacted] from the firing line to the target pits. [redacted] there were two hits out of three rounds fired at this distance, at ALLENTSTEIG. The target was a 1 1/2 x 1 1/2 m wooden slab. 4. 50X1

Maximum Approx 3,000 m [redacted] 50X1

Rate of Fire Approx 1 projectile per minute (only assumed this) 50X1 [redacted]

Method of Loading Breech-loaded ([redacted] tion of sub-caliber loading)

Cooling Air

Operation Recoilless

Firing Mechanism Mechanical (See Annex B for sketch)

Muzzle Velocity Unk 50X1

Elevating and Traversing Mechanism [redacted] elevation and traverse was obtained by the gunner manually moving the tube up or down and/or laterally, using his own shoulder and shoulder rest.

Mount Two wheel, fixed permanently to the weapon.

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Sights:

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| front | | Mounted on left side of weapon; details unk. |
| rear | 50X1 | Mounted on left side of weapon forward of shield; details unk |
| Crew | | Unknown. [redacted] three men. They were: loader, gunner and ammunition carrier. 50X1 |
| Danger Area to Rear of Weapon | 50X1 | Unknown. [redacted] a flame approxi- mately two meters long thrown rearward when the weapon was fired at ALLENTSTEIG. |

5. Ammunition Information and Characteristics 50X1

See Annex C for a sketch of a dummy training round. The following information is on a wooden training round [redacted] caserne. [redacted] the live ammunition would be basically the same as the wooden ones. 50X1

| | | |
|--|------|--|
| Caliber | | 107-mm (assumed [redacted]) 50X1 |
| Overall length | | 70-80 cm approx [redacted] |
| Length of fin stabilized projectile | | 50 cm approx [redacted] |
| Length of fins | 50X1 | 10 cm approx [redacted] |
| Length of Shank | 50X1 | 10-20 cm approx [redacted] |
| Primer | 50X1 | Fixed cartridge, [redacted] as a "rifle round" approx 16-20-mm in diameter and located in the base of the launcher round. |
| Fuze | 50X1 | Model unk 50X1 |
| Type | | Point-detonating [redacted] [redacted] firing at ALLENTSTEIG |
| Safety | | A copper safety cap over fuze (This existed even on the dummy round designed for training only.) 50X1 |
| Projectile | 50X1 | Made of steel or cast iron [redacted] this only) |
| Color Markings for Different Types of Rounds; | | [redacted] these on the range as an unidentified captain, who was CO of the 107-mm battery, was instructing battery personnel |
| General Purpose | | Light black |
| High Explosive | | Red stripe on projectile |
| Armor Piercing | | Black stripe on projectile |
| Heat | | Black and green stripe on projectile |

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Ammunition Packing
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3 rounds per box (for the training rounds)
wooden boxes were

B. ORGANIZATION OF ROCKET LAUNCHER BATTERY

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1. Conversion of Artillery to Rocket Launcher Battery

[redacted] prior to the issue of the alleged 107-mm AT rocket launcher to [redacted] regiment, one of the artillery batteries subordinate to the regimental artillery 5. had an unknown type of artillery piece. During the conversion to a rocket launcher unit, this type was shipped out to an unknown destination. This particular battery was then re-designated as the 107-mm Btry and was issued about six new AT rocket launchers of the type described in section A in the latter part of Jul 54. [redacted] these weapons were 107-mm in caliber. 1. Personnel of the otherwise unidentified battery were retained and retrained with these newly-issued weapons.

2. T/O of 107-mm Btry

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T/O&E information [redacted]

| | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Battery strength | About 40 EM and two officers, the CO and Zampolit. |
| Number of Platoons | Two |
| Number of Weapons in Battery | Six |
| Number of Weapons per Platoon | Unk |
| Organic Vehicles | Two or three GAZ-63 trucks |

[redacted] the weapon was normally truck-transported, two to a truck, for long hauls. They could be man-handled for short distances by using the towing handle. [redacted] the piece did not break down into parts for carrying.

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Three Annexes:

Annex A - Alleged New Soviet 107 mm AT RL

Annex B - Mechanical Firing Mechanism Employed on Alleged New Soviet 107 mm
AT RL

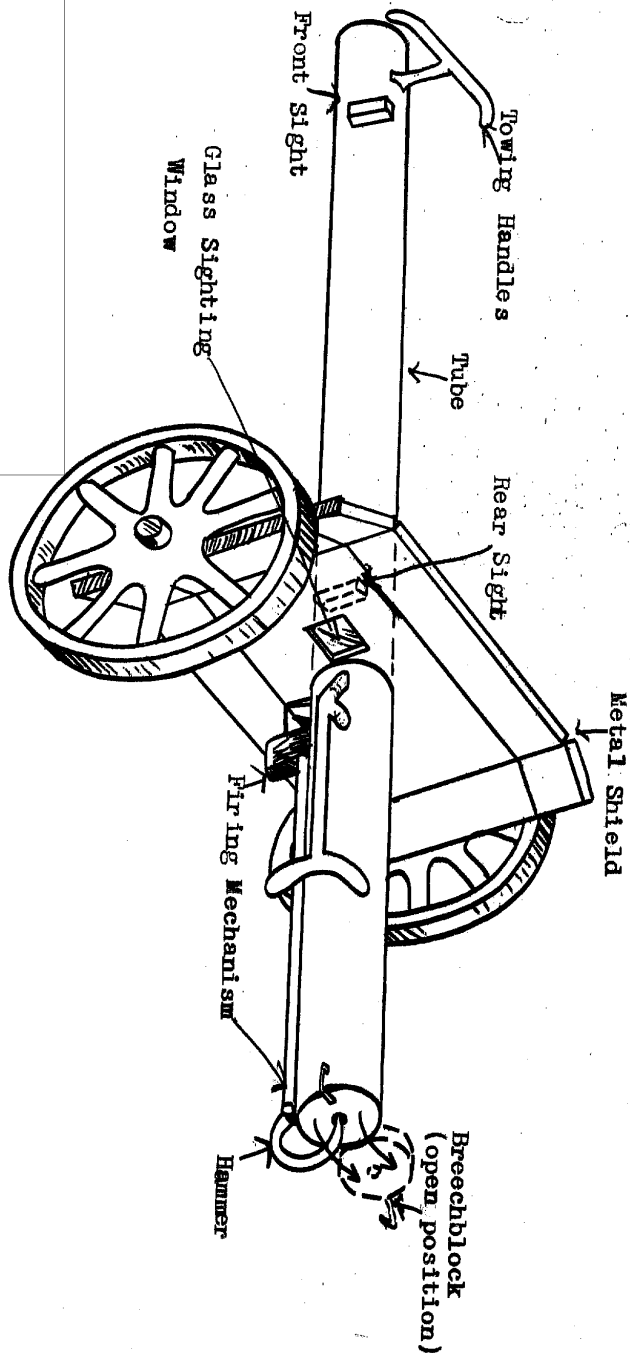
Annex C - Wooden Training Round for Alleged New Soviet 107 mm AT RL

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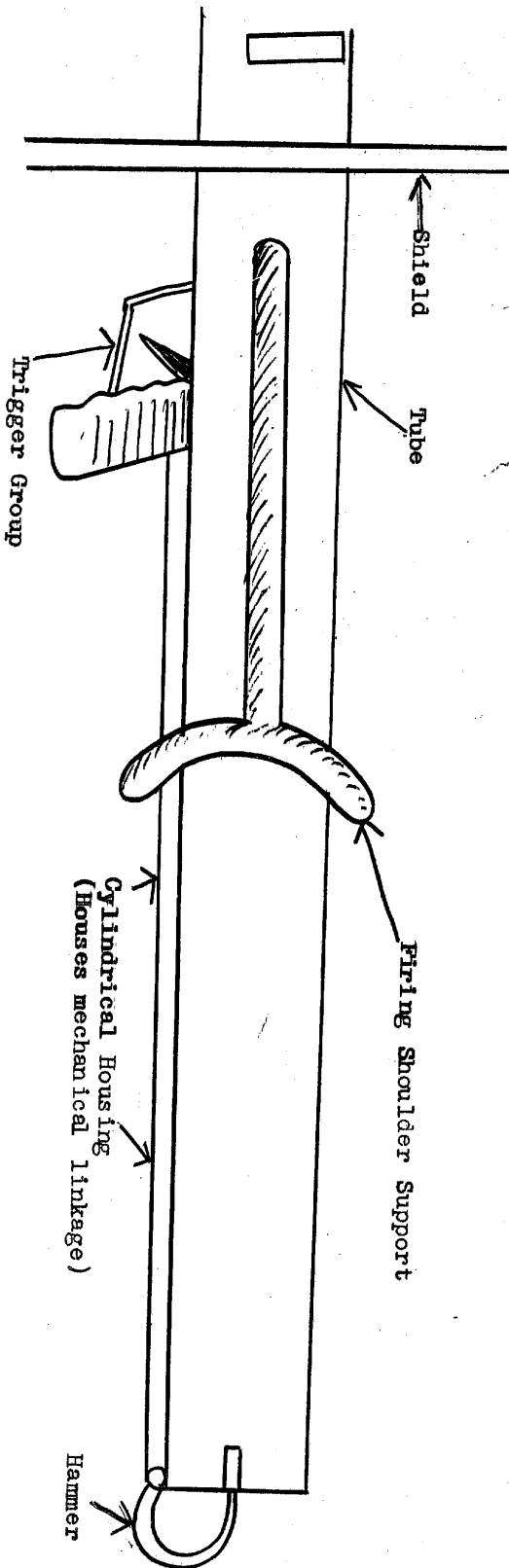
Annex A
Alleged New Soviet 107 mm AT RL
Sketch. Not to scale

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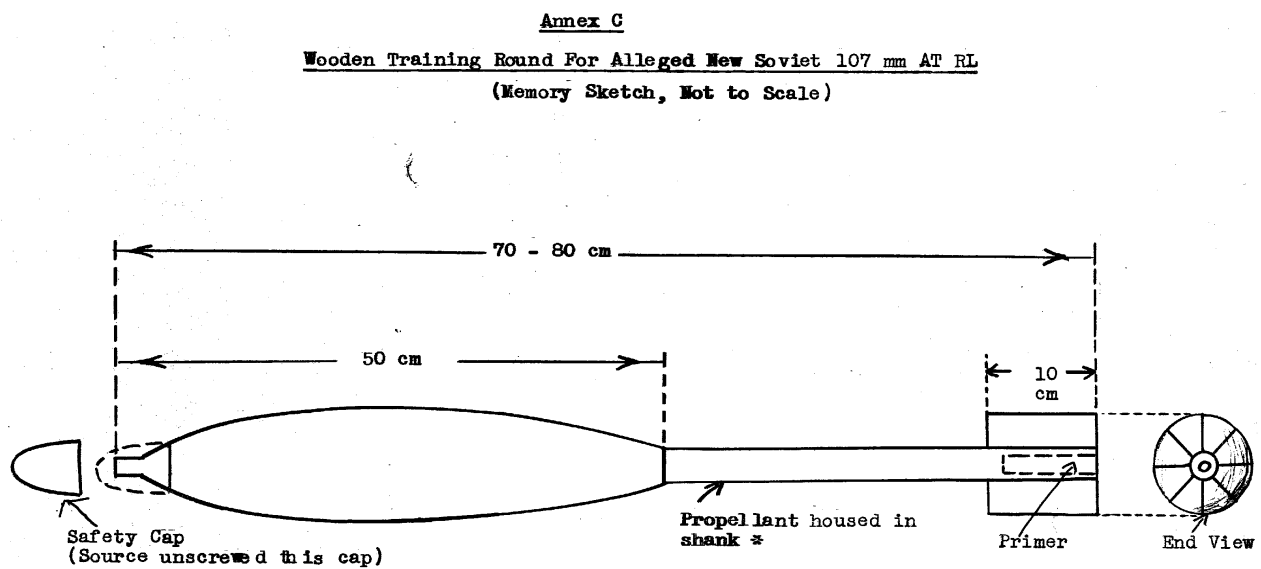
Mechanical 1 Firing Mechanism Employed on Alleged New Soviet 107 mm AT RL
Sketch. Not to Scale)

Annex B

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